

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

February 11, 2013

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Important Dates

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| Feb 1 - Feb 22 | MathCon |
| February 12 | BRAVO Showcase performance |
| February 18 | No School |
| February 20 | ISAT Info Night |
| February 22 | Causes of the American Revolution Project Due |

Dear Families,

End of Year Important Dates

The end of the school year will be here before you know it. So that you don't miss any important dates, we compiled a list of the many important dates between now and the end of the year. This list will go home with students towards the end of next week.

GAME DAY! New for 3rd-8th graders

All day (8:00am-3:00pm), Monday, March 4 (no school, Casimir Pulaski Day), 3rd-5th grade kids will have the opportunity to participate in a Game Day at Julian Middle School. Students will construct their own mini-golf course out of LEGOs, play improv games to make each other laugh, create an artsy board game to take home, and cut loose with games in the gym. There will be pizza or sack lunch option. This program is limited to first 80 kids in 3rd/4th/5th grade, and 20 kids in 6th/7th/8th grade. The cost is \$60, but limited number of scholarships are also available.

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - This week 5th grade artists are finishing their study of Islamic Art. The finished eraser prints are displayed outside the art room and on the art blog <http://www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com/>. We have received many compliments on these projects and I am wondering if there is a more public space available for displaying artwork around town. If anyone has any ideas of a venue (restaurant, store, etc) that might let us display our art, please contact Mr. K at jkristofer@op97.org.

Music - [Check out the website!](#) We had our playing test on the song "Ah Poor Bird" last week. The music is posted on the website on the recorder link to the left. If a student is nervous to play wants to retest or try the challenge, they may make a video recording of themselves playing the song and email it to me at akaria@op97.org. I will also be available during lunch on Thursday for those students who can't record themselves since last week's recorder karate was cancelled.

Chorus - Your child will be getting a form on Monday about chorus T-shirts and a chorus performance for a Chicago Wolves game. It is essential that we find out how many children are performing for the Wolves game as soon as possible so please fill out the information and return it to Mrs. Karia this week or email her at akaria@op97.org.

Spanish - Last week students wrote questions about the story in Spanish and presented them to the class. This week we will be acting the story out and recording it, as well as taking a written and oral assessment. Students can still read the story for 10 puntos on the website at :
<http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/>

Library - For more on library happenings, please keep up with us on the library home page (<http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>).

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.

Reading/Literature

This week we will continue our novel study on Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes. Students have chosen their own historical fiction books to read as we focus on comparing and contrasting texts within the same genre. We are running low on sticky notes (which students use during read to self) and are asking for donations. Thank you!

Language Arts

This week in language arts we will teach lessons on keyboarding/computer skills, as well as give students time to practice their typing in class. We will continue working on short project focusing on voice using the Preamble to the Constitution.

Math

Students will be learning about volume this week. We will begin by packing boxes with centimeter cubes as a visual model for volume. From that model, we will develop a formula for calculating volume. We will then practice calculating volume of rectangular prisms and right prisms. There will be a short quiz on Friday. This quiz will be composed of sample ISAT multiple choice questions which are related to geometry and measurement.

Science

In science this week, we will complete our airplane experiment and graph our data. Please be sure to check in with your student about their progress on the science fair project.

Social Studies

We are continuing on with our Causes of the American Revolution Project. The remainder of the week (and over the course of the next two weeks), students will work independently to research one of the causes of the American Revolution. This week students will take the information they collected last week and create a news article, as well as an editorial, on their topic. Towards the end of the project, students will get into a group and teach each other about the different causes, while also compiling their articles into a newspaper. This will be a mostly in-class project; however, it may require some additional work to be done at home depending on how wisely students spend their time in class.

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